

REMARKS

The Examiner was contacted with a view to conducting a telephone interview upon receipt of a proposed new claim. The Examiner's willingness to conduct such an interview is acknowledged with appreciation.

As discussed in the proposal for interview sent to the Examiner on October 27th, 2005 (copy submitted herewith) with a proposed new claim 20, the dry milling of zinc flake is problematic if the temperature exceeds 125°F because this produces an unstable oxidized product or fire when the mill is opened and exposed to the air for evacuation. Consequently zinc flake is commercially produced by wet milling and the associated costs result in an extremely expensive product.

The Applicants have found that cooling a dry mill using a static water jacket results in the water heating up almost immediately resulting in an unstable oxidized product. Furthermore the Applicants have found that when liquid nitrogen, argon and other liquid gases are employed as cooling methods they are ineffective.

However it has been found that passing cold water to continuously contact the mill achieves a consistent temperature of approximately 75° - 85°F and results in a stable product.

The Examiner responded to the proposal on October 31st, 2005 and invited the Applicant to submit the proposed claim in an amendment after final. New claim 20 finds support at the second paragraph on page 4 of the specification and as noted in that paragraph, a key to the successful production of zinc flake and the avoidance of sintering and ignition problems is the continuous cooling by passing water to the mill.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in order for allowance and an early action to this end is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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